



**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.: 10/730,566  
Filing Date: December 8, 2003  
Applicant: Blackwell-Thompson, et al  
Group Art Unit: Unknown  
Examiner: Unknown  
Title: SYSTEM AND METHODS FOR  
INTEGRATING A PAYLOAD WITH A LAUNCH  
VEHICLE  
Attorney Docket: 7784-000467/DVA

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Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
Attn: Licensing and Review

**LETTER**

Sir:

This letter is in response to the Form PTOL-456 (45 Day Letter) mailed April 26, 2004, a copy of which is enclosed. This letter shall confirm that the above invention was made with Government support under Contract Number NAS-10-11400 awarded by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Enclosed for filing is a preliminary amendment to amend the above application to include the foregoing statement.

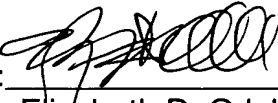
It is my understanding that you will forward the enclosed preliminary amendment to the Technology Center for processing. If you need any further information, or if it would expedite the prosecution of the above application,

EV 404053132 US

please telephone the undersigned at (314) 726-7521. Thank you for your assistance.

Dated: June 10, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
Elizabeth D. Odell

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.  
P.O. Box 828  
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303  
(248) 641-1600

MDE/EDO/dmkd

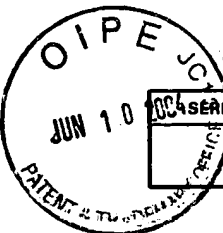
7784- 000467/DVA MDE EDO EV 404053132 US

45 Day Resp. Req.  
Due 6/10/04



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent and Trademark Office**

Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231



SERIAL NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO.
10/730,566	12/08/03	BLACKWELL-THOMPSON, ET AL.	7784-000467/DVA

HARNES, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.  
P.O. BOX 828  
BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI 48303

EXAMINER	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

DATE MAILED: **MAILED**

APR 26 2004

Scanned and  
sent to:

*Cook/Kylee*  
*S-6-04*

*AKG*  
*02-0031A*  
*(014002)*

Date:

LICENSING & REVIEW

**IF NO RESPONSE TO THIS NOTICE IS RECEIVED WITHIN FORTY-FIVE DAYS, A  
FORMAL REQUIREMENT WILL BE ISSUED**

The subject matter of this application appears to:

- ☐ be "useful in the production or utilization of special nuclear material or atomic energy" as recited in 42 U.S.C. 2182 (Department of Energy (DOE)).
- ☒ have significant utility in the conduct of aeronautical and space activities" as recited in 42 U.S.C. 2457 (National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)).

Accordingly, no patent can issue on this application unless applicant(s) file a statement (under oath or in the form of a declaration as provided by 37 CFR 1.68) setting forth (1) the full facts concerning the circumstances under which the invention was made and conceived and (2) the relationship (if any) of the invention to the performance of any work under any contract or other arrangement with the Agency(ies) noted above. On the reverse side of this form is an example of an acceptable format for this statement. The language appearing in paragraphs III and/or IV of the example *must* appear if applicant is attempting to establish that no relationship (under item 2 above) exists.

If the invention disclosed in this application was developed under a contract, grant or cooperative agreement between the Agency indicated above and a person, small business or non-profit organization and rights to the invention have been determined by specific reference to 35 U.S.C. 202 in the contract, grant or cooperative agreement, then applicant need not submit the statement described above. Instead, applicant may file a verified statement (under oath or in the form of a declaration, 37 CFR 1.68) setting forth the information required by 35 U.S.C. 202(c)(6).

IF NO STATEMENT HAS BEEN RECEIVED WITHIN FORTY-FIVE DAYS OF THE MAIL DATE INDICATED ABOVE, a formal requirement for statement will then be issued. No provision is made for extension of the statutory thirty-day period for response to the formal requirement and the penalty for failure to file an acceptable and timely statement is abandonment of the application. Therefore, applicants are strongly encouraged to submit a statement at this time in order to avoid the issuance of a formal requirement.

IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE that the statement must accurately represent the property rights situation of the claimed invention if and when the application is found allowable. Thus, if during prosecution before the examiner, the claimed invention is so altered or the property rights situation so changed as to impact the accuracy of a statement submitted earlier, a supplemental statement must be filed. Failure to submit such additional information where appropriate may be considered a false representation of material facts and render the patent owner vulnerable to loss of patent rights and other sanctions as set forth in the statutes. The PTO will not review allowed applications for this possibility. The responsibility for complying with the statutes rests with the applicants.

Any questions regarding this requirement should be directed to Licensing and Review at (703) 306-4191

**PLEASE DIRECT ALL COMMUNICATIONS RELATING TO THIS MATTER TO THE  
ATTENTION OF LICENSING AND REVIEW**

*(703) 306-4191*  
*7703305-0041*